

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Philip Lane on September 15, 2008

The application has been amended as follows:

In claim 44, line 1 delete "37" and insert -43--.

In claim 45, line 1 delete "37" and insert -43--.

In claim 46, line 1 delete "37" and insert -43 --.

In claim 47, line 1 delete "37" and insert -43--.

In the specification, on page 1, delete lines 1-5 and insert the following:

---This application is a continuation of U.S. Application Number 10/068,074 filed February 5, 2002, now U.S. Patent 6,869,455, which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Application Number 09/976,425 filed October 12, 2001, now U.S. Patent 6,860,910.---

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: the claims are allowable because the prior art fails to teach or suggest the claimed abrasive carbon foam wherein a carbide is reactively bonded to the open-cell carbon foam.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably